

**DATE:** October 17, 2016  
**TO:** School Administrators, Guidance Counselors & Community Leaders  
**FROM:** Greater Lansing Area Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission  
**RE:** **2017 MLK Essay Contest - An Opportunity for Your Students**

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We are pleased to announce our **2017 Essay Contest!!!** Please assist us in informing and encouraging Students (**6th – 8th** and **9th – 11th** grades) to participate in the celebration by entering the contest. Our theme is:

*“We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools.”*  
---Martin Luther King, Jr. - 1964

Monetary awards and certificates will be presented to the  
**First** (\$500), **Second** (\$350), and **Third Place** (\$150) winners at the Luncheon.

**ALL ENTRANTS WILL RECEIVE A FREE PIZZA**



Please ensure that contest participants strictly adhere to the following criteria:

1. Parental Permission Slip must be completed for each contestant
2. Essays must be typed (double spaced) or printed neatly in black ink
3. Essay length should not exceed 300 words.
4. Essays should speak to the theme
5. Essays presented using creative language styles are acceptable (i.e. poetry)
6. Submission **Deadline Date** is **December 2, 2016 (Postmarked)**
7. One copy of the Parental permission slip and Essay should be submitted to:

MLK Holiday Commission  
Attn: Essay Contest  
P.O. Box 24112  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-4112

8. Please e-mail [awinston@cinnaire.com](mailto:awinston@cinnaire.com) if you have questions.

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**Greater Lansing Area  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Holiday Commission**

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**2017 Essay Contest Permission Slip**

I hereby grant \_\_\_\_\_ permission to  
(Child's Name - Printed)

Participate in the Greater Lansing Area Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Commission's Essay Contest. I understand that if my child's essay is selected as a winning entry, he/she may be expected to read aloud his/her's composition at the **MLK Holiday Luncheon Celebration on Monday, January 16, 2017**. I further authorize the Commission to capture photos/video of my child for marketing/promotional purposes. Additionally, I certify that my child's submission is his/her's original work and does not contain plagiarized content. I understand that my child's entry may be disqualified if his/her's entry is in violation of this agreement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher/Sponsor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian (signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian's name (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State ZIP

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number

**\*\*This form *must* be completed\*\***